

**Patent claims:**

1. A cosmetic and dermatological preparation with an effective content of bile acids, their salts and/or their derivatives, it being possible for said active ingredients to be present either individually or as a mixture.
2. The preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein cosmetic or dermatological auxiliaries, additives and/or active ingredients are additionally present.
3. The preparation as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein the content of one or more bile acids, their salts and/or their derivatives in the cosmetic or dermatological preparations is chosen from the range 0.001 to 10% by weight, preferably 0.01% by weight to 1% by weight, but in particular 0.01% by weight to 0.5% by weight, in each case based on the total weight of the preparations.
4. The preparation as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein the active ingredient(s) is/are chosen from the group consisting of deoxycholic acid, ursodeoxycholic acid, taurocholic acid and/or salts thereof and/or derivatives thereof.
5. The preparation as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein the active ingredient(s) is/are chosen from the group of esters and ethers of bile acids.
6. The preparation as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein the active ingredient(s) is/are chosen from the group of salts of bile acids, in particular the alkali metal and alkaline earth metal salts, the salts of mono- or divalent cations of elements from the transition groups, and also the lanthanides and actinides, of salts of ammonium ( $-NH_3$ ), alkanolammonium derivatives having 2 to 9 carbon atoms in total, alkyl- and alkenylammonium derivatives having 1 to 22 carbon atoms in total, pyridine, which may be substituted by an alkyl or alkenyl group which has 1 to 18 carbon atoms, and of salts of basic amino acids.
7. The use of preparations as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6 for strengthening the barrier function of the skin.

